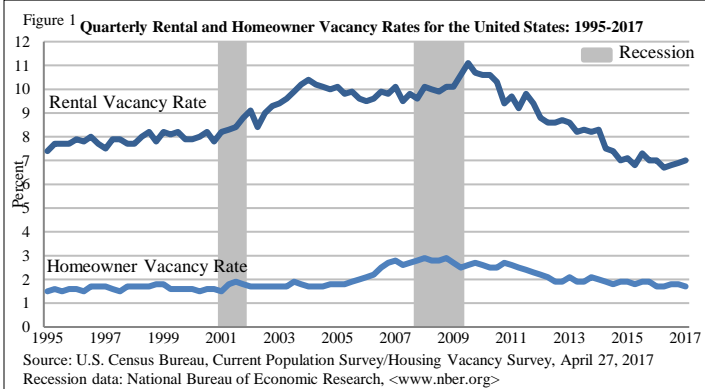


# QUARTERLY RESIDENTIAL VACANCIES AND HOMEOWNERSHIP, FIRST QUARTER 2017

Release Number: CB17-55

**April 27, 2017** — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following residential vacancies and homeownership statistics for first quarter 2017:

RESIDENTIAL VACANCIES AND HOMEOWNERSHIP FIRST QUARTER 2017	
<b>Rental Vacancy Rate</b>	<b>7.0%</b>
<b>Homeowner Vacancy Rate</b>	<b>1.7%</b>
<b>Homeownership Rate</b>	<b>63.6%</b>
<b>Next release: July 27, 2017</b>	
Data are not adjusted for seasonality.	
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey, April 27, 2017	



National vacancy rates in the first quarter 2017 were 7.0 percent for rental housing and 1.7 percent for homeowner housing. The rental vacancy rate of 7.0 percent was virtually unchanged from the rate in the first quarter 2016 (7.0 percent) and not statistically different from the rate in the fourth quarter 2016 (6.9 percent). The homeowner vacancy rate of 1.7 percent was virtually unchanged from the rate in the first quarter 2016 (1.7 percent) and lower than the rate in the fourth quarter 2016 (1.8 percent).

The homeownership rate of 63.6 percent was not statistically different from the rate in the first quarter 2016 (63.5 percent) or the rate in the fourth quarter 2016 (63.7 percent).

**Table 1. Rental and Homeowner Vacancy Rates for the United States: 2010 to 2017**

Year	Rental Vacancy Rate (percent)				Homeowner Vacancy Rate (percent)			
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
2017.....	7.0				1.7			
2016.....	7.0	6.7	6.8	6.9	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8
2015.....	7.1	6.8	7.3	7.0	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.9
2014.....	8.3	7.5	7.4	7.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.9
2013.....	8.6	8.2	8.3	8.2	2.1	1.9	1.9	2.1
2012.....	8.8	8.6	8.6	8.7	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.9
2011.....	9.7	9.2	9.8	9.4	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.3
2010.....	10.6	10.6	10.3	9.4	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.7

All comparative statements in this report have undergone statistical testing, and unless otherwise noted, all comparisons are statistically significant at the 90 percent significance level. For an explanation of how the rates are calculated, please see the Explanatory Notes at the end of the press release.

Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on the CPS/HVS website at: [www.census.gov/housing/hvs](http://www.census.gov/housing/hvs)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey, April 27, 2017.

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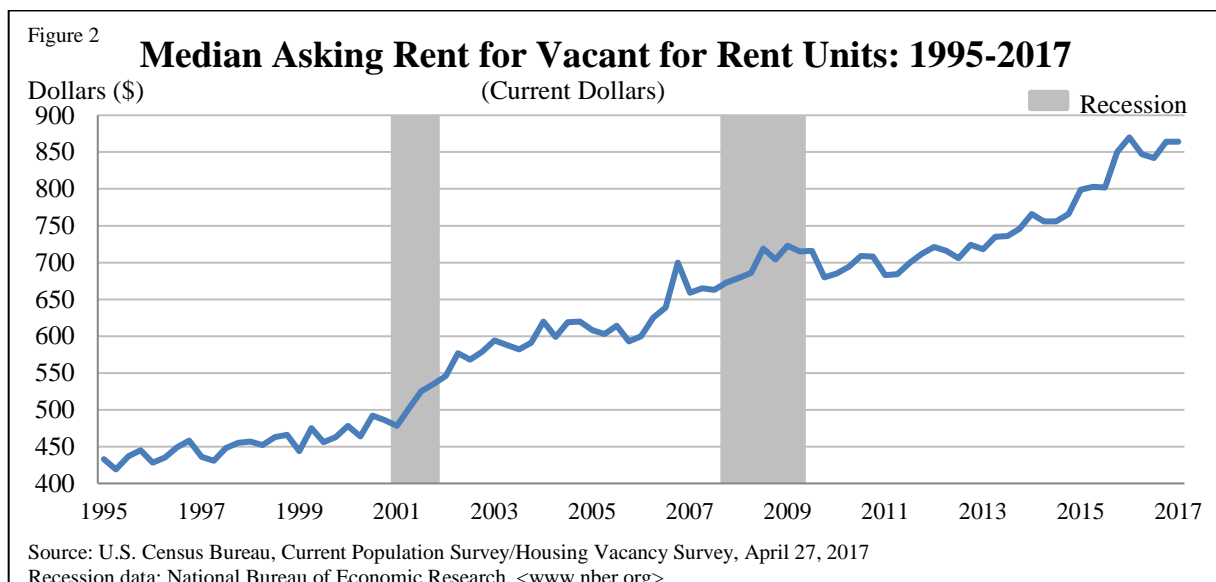
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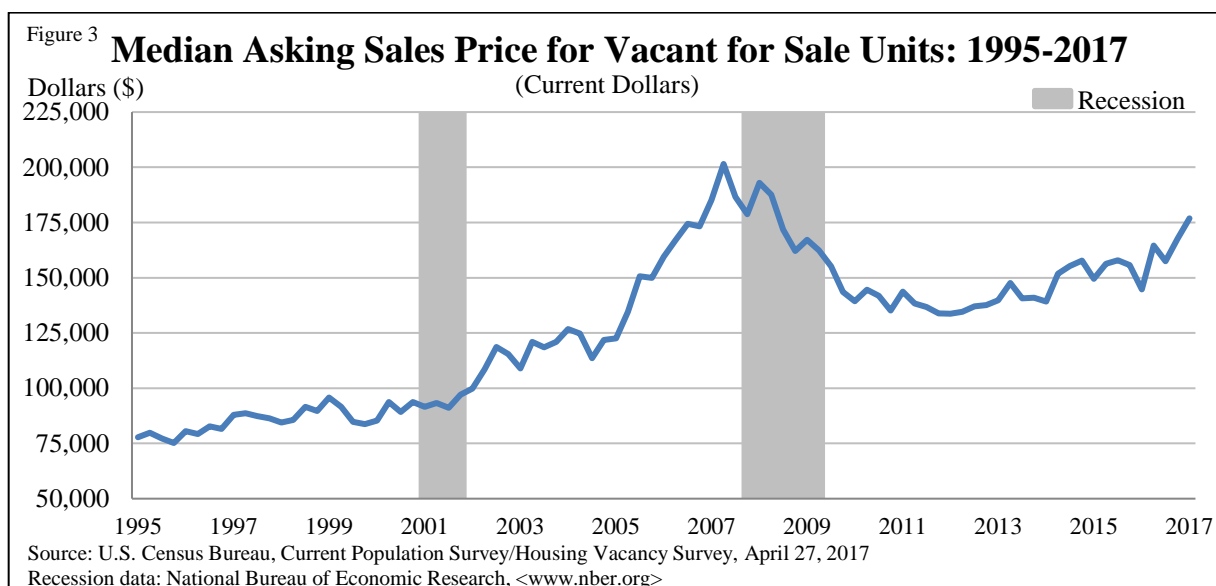


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In the first quarter 2017, the median asking rent for vacant for rent units was \$864.



In the first quarter 2017, the median asking sales price for vacant for sale units was \$176,900.



1. Median asking rent and median asking sales price data for vacant units can be found in Historical Table 11A/B at <[www.census.gov/housing/hvs/data/histtabs.html](http://www.census.gov/housing/hvs/data/histtabs.html)>
2. The data in figures 2 and 3 are not adjusted for price changes.

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The first quarter 2017 rental vacancy rate was highest outside Metropolitan Statistical Areas (8.7 percent). The rates inside principal cities (7.0 percent) and in the suburbs (6.5 percent) were not statistically different from each other. The rental vacancy rates outside MSAs, inside principal cities and in the suburbs were not statistically different from the first quarter 2016 rates.

The homeowner vacancy rate was lowest in the suburbs (1.3 percent). The rates outside MSAs and inside principal cities were not statistically different from each other (2.2 percent each). The homeowner vacancy rate in the suburbs was lower than the first quarter 2016 rate, while the rates outside MSAs and inside principal cities were not statistically different from the corresponding first quarter 2016 rates.

The first quarter 2017 rental vacancy rate was highest in the South (8.8 percent), followed by the Midwest (7.8 percent), Northeast (5.7 percent) and West (4.7 percent). The rental vacancy rates in the Northeast, Midwest, South and West were not statistically different from the first quarter 2016 rates.

The homeowner vacancy rate was highest in the South (2.0 percent). The rates in the Northeast (1.4 percent), Midwest (1.6 percent) and West (1.4 percent) were not statistically different from each other. The homeowner vacancy rate in the Northeast was lower than the first quarter 2016 rate, while the rates in the Midwest, South and West were not statistically different from the corresponding first quarter 2016 rates.

**Table 2. Rental and Homeowner Vacancy Rates by Area and Region: First Quarter 2016 and 2017**

Area/Region	Rental Vacancy Rates (percent)				Homeowner Vacancy Rates (percent)			
	First Quarter 2016	First Quarter 2017	Margins of Error <sup>a</sup>		First Quarter 2016	First Quarter 2017	Margins of Error <sup>a</sup>	
			of 2017 rate	of difference			of 2017 rate	of difference
United States.....	7.0	7.0	0.3	0.3	1.7	1.7	0.1	0.1
Inside Metropolitan Statistical Areas <sup>b</sup> .....	6.7	6.8	0.3	0.4	1.7	1.6	0.1	0.1
In principal cities.....	6.7	7.0	0.4	0.5	1.9	2.2	0.2	0.3
Not in principal cities (suburbs).....	6.6	6.5	0.4	0.5	1.5	1.3	0.1	0.2
Outside Metropolitan Statistical Areas.....	9.6	8.7	0.9	1.0	2.0	2.2	0.3	0.3
Northeast.....	5.4	5.7	0.5	0.7	1.9	1.4	0.2	0.3
Midwest.....	7.7	7.8	0.7	1.0	1.7	1.6	0.2	0.3
South.....	8.8	8.8	0.5	0.6	2.0	2.0	0.2	0.2
West.....	5.1	4.7	0.4	0.6	1.2	1.4	0.2	0.3

<sup>a</sup>A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's reliability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

<sup>b</sup>Caution should be used when comparing Metropolitan Statistical Area data for 2015 to earlier data. In first quarter 2015, the Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey began using the new metropolitan and micropolitan statistical definitions that were announced by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in February 2013, and were based on the application of the 2010 standards to Census 2010 data. In this report, outside Metropolitan Statistical Areas includes micropolitan and non-metropolitan statistical areas. The February 2013 definitions are available at: [www.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro.html](http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro.html)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey, April 27, 2017.

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Approximately 87.3 percent of the housing units in the United States in the first quarter 2017 were occupied and 12.7 percent were vacant. Owner-occupied housing units made up 55.5 percent of total housing units, while renter-occupied units made up 31.8 percent of the inventory in the first quarter 2017. Vacant year-round units comprised 9.4 percent of total housing units, while 3.3 percent were for seasonal use. Approximately 2.4 percent of the total units were for rent, 0.9 percent were for sale only and 0.7 percent were rented or sold but not yet occupied. Vacant units that were held off market comprised 5.3 percent of the total housing stock -- 1.5 percent were for occasional use, 1.0 percent were temporarily occupied by persons with usual residence elsewhere (URE) and 2.8 percent were vacant for a variety of other reasons.

**Table 3. Estimates of the Total Housing Inventory for the United States: First Quarter 2016 and 2017<sup>a</sup>**

(Estimates are in thousands, percent distribution may not add to total due to rounding)

Type	First Quarter 2016 (r)	First Quarter 2017	Difference Between Estimates	Margins of Error <sup>b</sup>		Percent of total (2017)
				of 2017 estimate	of difference	
All housing units.....	135,268	136,090	822	X	X	100.0
Occupied.....	117,582	118,800	1,218	331	426	87.3
Owner.....	74,702	75,556	854	535	735	55.5
Renter.....	42,879	43,244	365	574	776	31.8
Vacant.....	17,688	17,290	-398	349	444	12.7
Year-round.....	13,128	12,828	-300	303	364	9.4
For rent.....	3,269	3,283	14	121	161	2.4
For sale only.....	1,313	1,292	-21	74	93	0.9
Rented or Sold.....	970	986	16	57	76	0.7
Held off Market.....	7,576	7,267	-309	235	280	5.3
For Occ'l Use.....	2,085	2,067	-18	163	179	1.5
Temp Occ by URE...	1,570	1,426	-144	131	158	1.0
Other <sup>c</sup> .....	3,922	3,774	-148	147	181	2.8
Seasonal.....	4,560	4,462	-98	245	268	3.3

<sup>a</sup>The housing inventory estimates are benchmarked to 2010 Census.

<sup>b</sup>A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's reliability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

<sup>c</sup>A detailed breakdown of the 'other' vacant category can be found in Historical Table 18 <[www.census.gov/housing/hvs/data/histtabs.html](http://www.census.gov/housing/hvs/data/histtabs.html)>

(r) Revised using vintage 2015 housing unit controls. See note below.

X Not Applicable. Since the number of housing units is set equal to an independent national measure, there is no sampling error, and hence no confidence interval.

1. Since first quarter 2003, the Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey estimates have been controlled to an independent set of housing unit estimates produced annually by the Census Bureau's Population Division from Census 2000 and 2010 and updated using building permit data, estimates of housing loss, and other administrative record data. Doing so makes the CPS/HVS estimates of housing units more comparable to other Census Bureau housing surveys controlled to these census-based estimates. The housing unit controls affect the estimate of vacant units in the sense that the estimates of total occupied and vacant units sum to the control total. Vacancy rates and homeownership rates are not affected by this change.

2. Beginning in the second quarter 2016, the housing inventory estimates are based on vintage 2015 housing unit controls that are projected forward the first quarter 2017. The first quarter 2017 housing inventory estimates, shown above, reflect vintage 2015 housing unit controls, benchmarked to the 2010 Census. The CPS/HVS historical table series, from the first quarter 2010 through the first quarter 2016, has also been revised based on vintage 2015 housing unit controls. These revised estimates and additional information on terms and definitions can be found at: <[www.census.gov/housing/hvs/data/histtabs.html](http://www.census.gov/housing/hvs/data/histtabs.html)>

3. For the methodology used in developing the housing unit estimates used for controls in the CPS/HVS, please see the Census Bureau's Population Division website: <[www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest.html](http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest.html)>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey, April 27, 2017.

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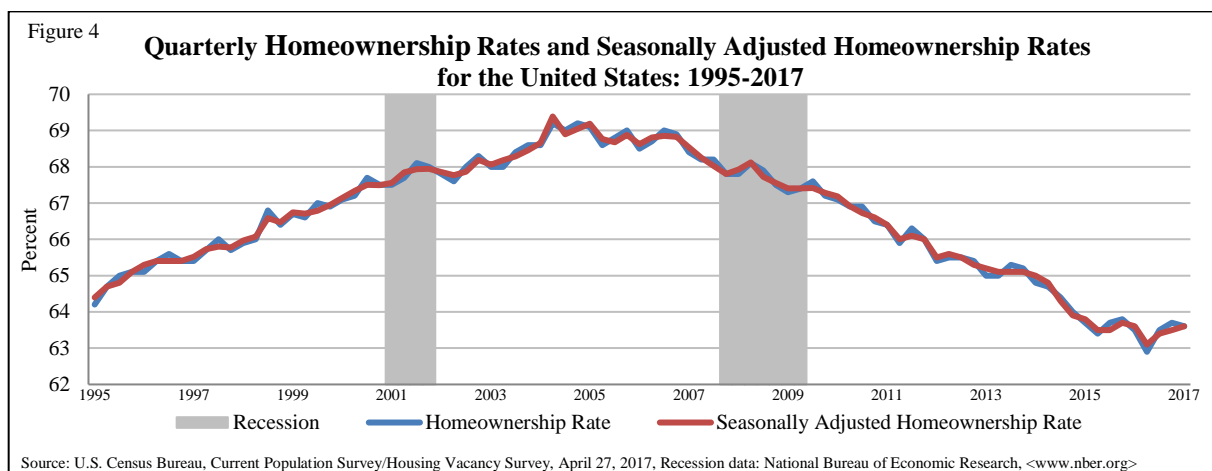
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The homeownership rate of 63.6 percent was not statistically different from the rate in the first quarter 2016 (63.5 percent) or the rate in the fourth quarter 2016 (63.7 percent).



**Table 4. Homeownership Rates for the United States: 1996 to 2017**

Year	Homeownership Rates (percent)							
	First Quarter		Second Quarter		Third Quarter		Fourth Quarter	
	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>
2017.....	63.6	0.5						
2016.....	63.5	0.5	62.9	0.5	63.5	0.5	63.7	0.5
2015.....	63.7	0.5	63.4	0.5	63.7	0.5	63.8	0.5
2014.....	64.8	0.5	64.7	0.5	64.4	0.5	64.0	0.5
2013.....	65.0	0.5	65.0	0.5	65.3	0.5	65.2	0.5
2012.....	65.4	0.5	65.5	0.5	65.5	0.5	65.4	0.5
2011.....	66.4	0.5	65.9	0.5	66.3	0.5	66.0	0.5
2010.....	67.1	0.5	66.9	0.5	66.9	0.5	66.5	0.5
2009.....	67.3	0.5	67.4	0.5	67.6	0.5	67.2	0.5
2008.....	67.8	0.5	68.1	0.5	67.9	0.5	67.5	0.5
2007.....	68.4	0.5	68.2	0.5	68.2	0.5	67.8	0.5
2006.....	68.5	0.5	68.7	0.5	69.0	0.5	68.9	0.5
2005.....	69.1	0.5	68.6	0.5	68.8	0.5	69.0	0.5
2004.....	68.6	0.3	69.2	0.2	69.0	0.2	69.2	0.3
2003.....	68.0	0.3	68.0	0.3	68.4	0.3	68.6	0.3
2002 <sup>b</sup> .....	67.8	0.3	67.6	0.3	68.0	0.3	68.3	0.3
2001.....	67.5	0.3	67.7	0.3	68.1	0.3	68.0	0.3
2000.....	67.1	0.3	67.2	0.3	67.7	0.3	67.5	0.3
1999.....	66.7	0.3	66.6	0.3	67.0	0.3	66.9	0.3
1998.....	65.9	0.3	66.0	0.3	66.8	0.3	66.4	0.3
1997.....	65.4	0.3	65.7	0.3	66.0	0.3	65.7	0.3
1996.....	65.1	0.3	65.4	0.3	65.6	0.3	65.4	0.3

<sup>a</sup>A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's reliability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

<sup>b</sup>Revised in 2002 to incorporate information collected in Census 2000.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey, April 27, 2017.

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Table 4SA shows the seasonally adjusted homeownership rates for the United States, from 1996 to present. (Research has shown that seasonality for homeownership rates is present). When adjusted for seasonal variation, the first quarter 2017 homeownership rate was not statistically different from the rate in the first quarter 2016 or the rate in the fourth quarter 2016.

**Table 4SA. Homeownership Rates for the United States: 1996 to 2017, Seasonally Adjusted<sup>a</sup>**

Year	Homeownership Rates (percent), Seasonally Adjusted							
	First Quarter		Second Quarter		Third Quarter		Fourth Quarter	
	Rate	MOE <sup>b</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>b</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>b</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>b</sup>
2017.....	63.6	0.5						
2016.....	63.5	0.5	63.2	0.5	63.4	0.5	63.5	0.5
2015.....	63.7	0.5	63.6	0.5	63.6	0.5	63.7	0.5
2014.....	64.9	0.5	64.8	0.5	64.3	0.5	63.9	0.5
2013.....	65.2	0.5	65.1	0.5	65.2	0.5	65.1	0.5
2012.....	65.6	0.5	65.6	0.5	65.4	0.5	65.3	0.5
2011.....	66.5	0.5	66.0	0.5	66.1	0.5	65.9	0.5
2010.....	67.2	0.5	67.0	0.5	66.7	0.5	66.5	0.5
2009.....	67.4	0.5	67.4	0.5	67.4	0.5	67.2	0.5
2008.....	67.9	0.5	68.1	0.5	67.7	0.5	67.5	0.5
2007.....	68.5	0.5	68.3	0.5	68.0	0.5	67.8	0.5
2006.....	68.6	0.5	68.8	0.5	68.9	0.5	68.8	0.5
2005.....	69.2	0.5	68.7	0.5	68.7	0.5	68.9	0.5
2004.....	68.7	0.2	69.4	0.1	68.9	0.1	69.1	0.2
2003.....	68.1	0.2	68.2	0.2	68.3	0.2	68.5	0.2
2002 <sup>c</sup> .....	67.9	0.2	67.8	0.2	67.9	0.2	68.2	0.2
2001.....	67.6	0.2	67.9	0.2	67.9	0.2	67.9	0.2
2000.....	67.1	0.2	67.3	0.2	67.5	0.2	67.5	0.2
1999.....	66.7	0.2	66.7	0.2	66.8	0.2	66.9	0.2
1998.....	66.0	0.2	66.1	0.2	66.6	0.2	66.5	0.2
1997.....	65.5	0.2	65.7	0.2	65.8	0.2	65.8	0.2
1996.....	65.3	0.2	65.4	0.2	65.4	0.2	65.4	0.2

<sup>a</sup>As new quarterly data are input, previous quarters' seasonally adjusted homeownership rates may change.

<sup>b</sup>A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's reliability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

<sup>c</sup>Revised in 2002 to incorporate information collected in Census 2000.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey, April 27, 2017.

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The first quarter 2017 homeownership rates were highest in the Midwest (67.6 percent), followed by the South (65.4 percent), Northeast (60.6 percent) and West (59.0 percent). The homeownership rate in the Midwest was lower than the first quarter 2016 rate, while the rates in the Northeast, South and West were not statistically different from the rates in the first quarter 2016.

**Table 5. Homeownership Rates for the United States and Regions: 2011 to 2017**

Year/Quarter	Homeownership Rates (percent)									
	United States		Northeast		Midwest		South		West	
	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>
2017										
First Quarter	63.6	0.5	60.6	0.8	67.6	0.7	65.4	0.6	59.0	0.7
2016										
Fourth Quarter	63.7	0.5	60.4	0.9	68.4	1.0	65.3	0.9	59.0	1.1
Third Quart	63.5	0.5	60.8	0.9	68.6	1.0	65.0	0.9	58.2	1.1
Second Quarter	62.9	0.5	59.2	0.9	67.7	1.0	64.8	0.9	57.9	1.1
First Quarter	63.5	0.5	60.4	0.9	68.9	1.0	64.8	0.9	58.7	1.1
2015										
Fourth Quarter	63.8	0.5	61.6	0.9	68.1	1.0	65.3	0.9	59.0	1.2
Third Quarter	63.7	0.5	60.8	0.9	68.1	1.0	65.4	0.9	58.7	1.2
Second Quarter	63.4	0.5	60.2	0.9	68.4	1.0	64.9	0.9	58.5	1.2
First Quarter	63.7	0.5	61.1	0.9	68.6	1.0	65.1	0.9	58.5	1.2
2014										
Fourth Quarter	64.0	0.5	61.9	0.9	68.3	1.0	65.5	0.9	58.6	1.2
Third Quarter	64.4	0.5	62.3	0.9	68.8	1.0	65.7	0.9	59.4	1.2
Second Quarter	64.7	0.5	62.1	0.9	69.6	1.0	65.9	0.9	59.6	1.2
First Quarter	64.8	0.5	62.4	0.9	69.3	1.0	66.5	0.9	59.4	1.2
2013										
Fourth Quarter	65.2	0.5	62.8	0.9	69.8	1.0	67.1	0.9	59.3	1.2
Third Quarter	65.3	0.5	63.6	0.9	69.6	1.0	66.9	0.9	59.5	1.2
Second Quarter	65.0	0.5	63.2	0.9	69.4	1.0	66.5	0.9	59.4	1.2
First Quarter	65.0	0.5	62.5	0.9	70.0	1.0	66.5	0.9	59.4	1.2
2012										
Fourth Quarter	65.4	0.5	63.9	0.9	69.7	1.0	67.0	0.9	59.5	1.2
Third Quarter	65.5	0.5	63.9	0.9	69.6	1.0	66.9	0.9	60.1	1.2
Second Quarter	65.5	0.5	63.7	0.9	69.6	1.0	67.4	0.9	59.7	1.2
First Quarter	65.4	0.5	62.5	0.9	69.5	1.0	67.5	0.9	59.9	1.2
2011										
Fourth Quarter	66.0	0.5	63.7	0.9	70.0	1.0	68.3	0.9	60.1	1.2
Third Quarter	66.3	0.5	63.7	0.9	70.3	1.0	68.4	0.9	60.7	1.2
Second Quarter	65.9	0.5	63.0	0.9	70.0	1.0	68.2	0.9	60.3	1.2
First Quarter	66.4	0.5	63.9	0.9	70.4	1.0	68.4	0.9	60.9	1.2

<sup>a</sup>A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's reliability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey, April 27, 2017.

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The first quarter 2017 homeownership rates were highest for those householders ages 65 years and over (78.6 percent) and lowest for the under 35 years of age group (34.3 percent). None of the rates by age group were statistically different from the first quarter 2016 rates.

**Table 6. Homeownership Rates by Age of Householder: 2011 to 2017**

Year/Quarter	Homeownership Rates (percent)											
	United States		Under 35 years		35 to 44 years		45 to 54 years		55 to 64 years		65 years and over	
	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>a</sup>
2017												
First Quarter	63.6	0.5	34.3	0.7	59.0	0.8	69.4	0.7	75.6	0.7	78.6	0.5
2016												
Fourth Quarter	63.7	0.5	34.7	0.8	58.7	1.0	69.8	0.9	74.8	0.6	79.5	0.7
Third Quarter	63.5	0.5	35.2	0.8	58.4	1.0	69.1	0.9	74.9	0.6	79.0	0.7
Second Quarter	62.9	0.5	34.1	0.8	58.3	1.0	69.1	0.9	74.7	0.6	77.9	0.7
First Quarter	63.5	0.5	34.2	0.8	58.9	1.0	69.2	0.9	75.7	0.6	78.8	0.7
2015												
Fourth Quarter	63.8	0.5	34.7	0.8	59.3	1.0	70.1	0.9	75.2	0.6	79.3	0.7
Third Quarter	63.7	0.5	35.8	0.8	58.1	1.0	69.9	0.9	75.3	0.6	78.7	0.7
Second Quarter	63.4	0.5	34.8	0.8	58.0	1.0	69.9	0.9	75.4	0.6	78.5	0.7
First Quarter	63.7	0.5	34.6	0.8	58.4	1.0	70.1	0.9	75.8	0.6	79.0	0.7
2014												
Fourth Quarter	64.0	0.5	35.3	0.8	58.8	1.0	70.5	0.9	75.8	0.6	79.5	0.7
Third Quarter	64.4	0.5	36.0	0.9	59.1	1.0	70.1	0.9	76.6	0.6	80.0	0.7
Second Quarter	64.7	0.5	35.9	0.9	60.2	1.0	70.7	0.9	76.4	0.6	80.1	0.7
First Quarter	64.8	0.5	36.2	0.9	60.7	1.0	71.4	0.9	76.4	0.6	79.9	0.7
2013												
Fourth Quarter	65.2	0.5	36.8	0.9	60.9	1.0	71.4	0.8	76.5	0.6	80.7	0.7
Third Quarter	65.3	0.5	36.8	0.9	61.1	1.0	71.3	0.8	76.2	0.6	81.2	0.7
Second Quarter	65.0	0.5	36.7	0.9	60.3	1.0	70.9	0.8	76.7	0.6	80.9	0.7
First Quarter	65.0	0.5	36.8	0.9	60.1	1.0	71.3	0.8	77.0	0.6	80.4	0.7
2012												
Fourth Quarter	65.4	0.5	37.1	0.9	60.4	1.0	72.1	0.8	77.6	0.6	80.7	0.7
Third Quarter	65.5	0.5	36.3	0.9	61.8	1.0	72.0	0.8	76.9	0.6	81.4	0.7
Second Quarter	65.5	0.5	36.5	0.9	62.2	1.0	71.4	0.8	77.1	0.6	81.6	0.7
First Quarter	65.4	0.5	36.8	0.9	61.4	1.0	71.3	0.8	77.8	0.6	80.9	0.7
2011												
Fourth Quarter	66.0	0.5	37.6	0.9	62.3	1.0	72.7	0.8	79.0	0.6	80.9	0.7
Third Quarter	66.3	0.5	38.0	0.9	63.4	1.0	72.7	0.8	78.6	0.6	81.1	0.7
Second Quarter	65.9	0.5	37.5	0.9	63.8	1.0	72.3	0.8	77.8	0.6	80.8	0.7
First Quarter	66.4	0.5	37.9	0.9	64.4	1.0	73.1	0.8	78.6	0.6	81.0	0.7

<sup>a</sup>A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's reliability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey, April 27, 2017.

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For the racial categories shown in Table 7, the first quarter 2017 homeownership rate for non-Hispanic White Alone householders reporting a single race was highest at 71.8 percent. The rate for Asian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Alone householders was second at 56.8 percent and Black Alone householders was lowest at 42.7 percent. The homeownership rate for Black Alone householders was higher than the first quarter 2016 rate, while the rates for non-Hispanic White Alone and Asian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Alone householders were not statistically different from the first quarter 2016 rates.

The homeownership rate for Hispanic householders (who can be of any race), 46.6 percent, was not statistically different from the first quarter 2016 rate.

**Table 7. Homeownership Rates by Race and Ethnicity of Householder: 2013 to 2017**

Year/Quarter	Homeownership Rates (percent)											
	United States		Non-Hispanic White Alone		Black Alone		All Other Races				Hispanic (of any race)	
							Total <sup>a</sup>		Asian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Alone			
	Rate	MOE <sup>b</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>b</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>b</sup>			Rate	MOE <sup>b</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>b</sup>
2017 First Quarter	63.6	0.5	71.8	0.4	42.7	0.9	53.6	1.1	56.8	1.4	46.6	1.0
2016 Fourth Quarter	63.7	0.5	72.2	0.4	41.7	0.9	53.7	1.0	56.6	1.3	46.3	0.9
Third Quarter	63.5	0.5	71.9	0.4	41.3	0.9	53.3	1.1	55.6	1.3	47.0	0.9
Second Quarter	62.9	0.5	71.5	0.4	41.7	0.9	51.2	1.1	53.7	1.3	45.1	0.9
First Quarter	63.5	0.5	72.1	0.4	41.5	0.9	53.0	1.1	55.7	1.3	45.3	0.9
2015 Fourth Quarter	63.8	0.5	72.2	0.4	41.9	0.9	53.3	1.1	X	X	46.7	0.9
Third Quarter	63.7	0.5	71.9	0.4	42.4	0.9	53.7	1.1	X	X	46.1	0.9
Second Quarter	63.4	0.5	71.6	0.4	43.0	0.9	52.6	1.1	X	X	45.4	0.9
First Quarter	63.7	0.5	72.0	0.4	41.9	0.9	55.4	1.1	X	X	44.1	0.9
2014 Fourth Quarter	64.0	0.5	72.3	0.4	42.1	0.9	55.3	1.1	X	X	44.5	0.9
Third Quarter	64.4	0.5	72.6	0.4	42.9	0.9	54.2	1.1	X	X	45.6	0.9
Second Quarter	64.7	0.5	72.9	0.4	43.5	0.9	54.7	1.1	X	X	45.8	0.9
First Quarter	64.8	0.5	72.9	0.4	43.3	0.9	55.8	1.1	X	X	45.8	0.9
2013 Fourth Quarter	65.2	0.5	73.4	0.4	43.2	0.9	56.0	1.1	X	X	45.5	0.9
Third Quarter	65.3	0.5	73.3	0.4	43.1	0.9	55.2	1.1	X	X	47.6	0.9
Second Quarter	65.0	0.5	73.3	0.4	42.9	0.9	54.5	1.1	X	X	45.9	0.9
First Quarter	65.0	0.5	73.4	0.4	43.1	0.9	54.6	1.1	X	X	45.3	0.9

<sup>a</sup>Includes people who reported Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, or American Indian or Alaska Native regardless of whether they reported any other race, as well as all other combinations of two or more races.

<sup>b</sup>A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

(X) Not Applicable. Beginning in the first quarter 2016, homeownership rates for Asian, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander householders were tabulated separately from the 'All Other Races' category. Data prior to 2016 are not available.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey, April 27, 2017.

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The first quarter 2017 homeownership rate for households with family incomes greater than or equal to the median family income was not statistically different from the first quarter 2016 rate. The rate for those households with family incomes less than the median family income was not statistically different from the first quarter 2016 rate.

**Table 8. Homeownership Rates by Family Income: 2012 to 2017**

Year/Quarter	Homeownership Rates (percent)					
	United States		Households with family income greater than or equal to the median family income <sup>a</sup>		Households with family income less than the median family income <sup>a</sup>	
	Rate	MOE <sup>b</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>b</sup>	Rate	MOE <sup>b</sup>
2017 First Quarter	63.6	0.5	77.9	0.5	49.3	0.6
2016 Fourth Quarter	63.7	0.5	78.0	0.4	49.5	0.6
Third Quarter	63.5	0.5	77.8	0.4	49.2	0.6
Second Quarter	62.9	0.5	77.8	0.4	48.0	0.6
First Quarter	63.5	0.5	78.1	0.5	48.9	0.5
2015 Fourth Quarter	63.8	0.5	78.5	0.5	49.2	0.5
Third Quarter	63.7	0.5	78.4	0.5	49.0	0.5
Second Quarter	63.4	0.5	78.3	0.5	48.6	0.5
First Quarter	63.7	0.5	78.4	0.5	48.9	0.5
2014 Fourth Quarter	64.0	0.5	79.0	0.5	49.0	0.5
Third Quarter	64.4	0.5	79.3	0.5	49.5	0.5
Second Quarter	64.7	0.5	79.5	0.5	49.8	0.5
First Quarter	64.8	0.5	79.8	0.5	49.8	0.5
2013 Fourth Quarter	65.2	0.5	80.2	0.4	50.2	0.5
Third Quarter	65.3	0.5	79.9	0.5	50.6	0.5
Second Quarter	65.0	0.5	79.7	0.5	50.3	0.5
First Quarter	65.0	0.5	80.0	0.5	50.0	0.5
2012 Fourth Quarter	65.4	0.5	80.4	0.4	50.3	0.5
Third Quarter	65.5	0.5	80.3	0.4	50.6	0.5
Second Quarter	65.5	0.5	80.5	0.4	50.6	0.5
First Quarter	65.4	0.5	80.3	0.4	50.4	0.5

<sup>a</sup>Based on family or primary individual income.

<sup>b</sup>A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's reliability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

NOTE: Beginning in 2010, the Census Bureau began imputing missing values for the family income question, which is used in the homeownership table above. Data users should keep this in mind when comparing data from 2010 and later to earlier data.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey, April 27, 2017.

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The second quarter 2017 data are scheduled for release on July 27, 2017. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: <[www.census.gov/economic-indicators/](http://www.census.gov/economic-indicators/)>. More details can be found at <[www.census.gov/housing/hvs/](http://www.census.gov/housing/hvs/)>.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

The estimates in this release are based on a sample survey and therefore are subject to both sampling and non-sampling error. Sampling error is a result of not surveying the entire population. Non-sampling error occurs because accurate information cannot always be obtained.

The sample estimate and its standard error enable one to construct a margin of error. A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's reliability. The larger a margin of error is in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. For example, the standard error on the estimated rental vacancy rate of 7.0 percent is 0.153 percentage points. The margin of error is calculated as  $7.0 \pm (1.645 \times 0.153)$  percent, or  $7.0 \pm 0.3$  percent. Thus the 90 percent confidence interval is from 6.7 percent to 7.3 percent. If all possible samples were surveyed under essentially the same general conditions and the same sample design, and if an estimate and its standard error were calculated from each sample, then approximately 90 percent of the margins of error would include the average result of all possible samples.

In the first quarter 2017, the parameters used to calculate standard errors for rates and estimates were updated. The factors are evaluated, and updated if necessary, after approximately 15 months of data have been collected from a new CPS/HVS sample following a decennial census. The current sample has been fully phased-in since July 2015.

Since the first quarter 2003, the Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey housing inventory estimates have been controlled to independent housing unit estimates based upon Census 2000 (2000-2009 data) and Census 2010 (2010-present data) and updated with building permit data, estimates of housing loss, and other administrative records data. In the second quarter 2016, the CPS/HVS revised the series of housing inventory estimates back to the first quarter 2010, based on the latest series of independent housing controls, the vintage 2015 time series. Housing inventory estimates from the second quarter 2000 through the fourth quarter 2009 are revised based on the vintage 2010 time series. Housing inventory estimates, prior to the second quarter 2000, have not been revised. The CPS/HVS housing inventory data series are based on the independently produced vintage 2015 housing unit estimates that are projected forward through the first quarter 2016. The vintage 2015 estimates are benchmarked to the 2010 Census. The same general procedure will be followed each year in revising housing inventory estimates with the most up-to-date independent housing estimates available.

For an explanation of the methodology used in producing the housing inventory independent estimates, please see: <[www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest.html](http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest.html)>

Note: This time series is by the latest "vintage" year. For example, vintage 2015 means that all of the estimates in this time series are identified as belonging to "vintage 2015." The 2010 data are from the 2015 vintage, the 2011 data are from the 2015 vintage, and so on.

The CPS/HVS also began computing first-stage factors (used for weighting purposes) based on year-round and seasonal counts of housing units from Census 2000 for the first quarter 2003. From 1980 to 2002, the CPS/HVS first-stage factors were based on year-round estimates only. The effect on the data is slight and the change should improve the counts of year-round and seasonal units. For more information

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on the effects of these changes, please see Source and Accuracy Statement at:

[www.census.gov/housing/hvs/files/qtr117/source\\_17q1.pdf](http://www.census.gov/housing/hvs/files/qtr117/source_17q1.pdf)

Beginning in the first quarter 2012, the population controls reflect the results of the 2010 decennial census. This change has virtually no effect on vacancy and homeownership rates. Research has shown that the new 2010-based controls increased the rental vacancy rate in April 2010 from 10.43 percent to 10.45 percent---a difference of less than 1/10 of one percent. The homeowner vacancy rate remained the same at 2.63 percent, while the homeownership rate was up from 66.67 percent to 66.74 percent.

The question on race on the CPS was modified beginning in the first quarter 2003 to comply with new standards for federal statistical agencies. Respondents are now allowed to report one or more races. The question on Hispanic origin is asked separately, and is asked before the question on race.

First stage factors for year-round vacant units have been corrected as of the second quarter 2004. Research has shown that this correction had no significant effect on the vacancy rates or homeownership rates.

The rental vacancy rate is the proportion of the rental inventory that is vacant for rent. In tables 1 and 2, the rates are computed using the following formula.

$$\text{Rental Vacancy Rate (\%)} = \left[ \frac{\text{Vacant year-round units for rent}}{\left( \frac{\text{Renter occupied units}}{\text{units}} \right) + \left( \frac{\text{Vacant year-round units rented but awaiting occupancy}}{\text{units}} \right) + \left( \frac{\text{Vacant year-round units for rent}}{\text{units}} \right)} \right] * 100$$

The homeowner vacancy rate is the proportion of the homeowner inventory that is vacant for sale. In tables 1 and 2 the rates are computed using the following formula.

$$\text{Homeowner Vacancy Rate (\%)} = \left[ \frac{\text{Vacant year-round units for sale only}}{\left( \frac{\text{Owner occupied units}}{\text{units}} \right) + \left( \frac{\text{Vacant year-round units sold but awaiting occupancy}}{\text{units}} \right) + \left( \frac{\text{Vacant year-round units for sale only}}{\text{units}} \right)} \right] * 100$$

The homeownership rate is the proportion of households that is owner-occupied. It is computed by dividing the number of households that are occupied by owners by the total number of occupied households (tables 4, 4SA and 5).

$$\text{Homeownership Rate (\%)} = \left[ \frac{\text{Owner occupied housing units}}{\text{Total Occupied housing units}} \right] * 100$$

For the homeownership rate for a specific characteristic (tables 6, 7 and 8), use the owner and total number of units for that characteristic. For example, for the West region:

$$\text{Homeownership Rate (West) (\%)} = \left[ \frac{\text{Owner occupied housing units (West)}}{\text{Total Occupied housing units (West)}} \right] * 100$$

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## **America's Economy Mobile App**

The America's Economy app provides real-time updates for 19 key economic indicators released from the Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Bureau of Economic Analysis.

[<www.census.gov/mobile/economy/>](http://www.census.gov/mobile/economy/)

## **API**

The URL for the economic indicators data in the Census Bureau API ([Application Programming Interface](#)) has been updated to add /timeseries/. Examples can be found on the [Developers' webpage](#). The old URL was discontinued on December 31, 2016.

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